Claim Amendments

Claims 1 - 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic initiator comprising:

an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of a metal;

a reactive layer on said electrically energizable initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical energization of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of metal capable of liberating energy by alloying with the metal of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being applied to said electrically energizable initiator bridge in the form of a streak or spaced apart islets; and

a thin electrically insulating layer between said electrically energizable initiator bridge and said reactive layer, ~~The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 3 wherein~~ said electrically insulating layer ~~is~~ being an oxide or nitride of a metal of the reactive layer.

6. (Previously amended) The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 4 wherein said reactive layer is comprised of a metal selected from the group which consists of titanium, hafnium, niobium, tantalum, aluminum and nickel.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic initiator comprising:

an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of a metal;

a reactive layer on said electrically energizable initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical energization of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of metal capable of liberating energy by alloying with the metal of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, ~~The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 1 wherein~~ said electrically energizable initiator bridge ~~is~~ being composed of at least one metal selected from the group which consists of gold and palladium, and said reactive layer comprises nickel.

8. (previously amended) The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 7, further comprising an ignition promotor in a region of said electrically energizable initiator bridge and said reactive layer.

9. (currently amended) ~~The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 1 wherein~~ A pyrotechnic initiator comprising:

an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of a metal;

a reactive layer on said electrically energizable initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical

energization of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of metal capable of liberating energy by alloying with the metal of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, the electrically energizable initiator bridge ~~is~~ being composed of at least one metal selected from the group of platinum and other platinum-group metals, and the reactive layer comprises aluminum.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (presently amended) A pyrotechnic initiator comprising:

an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of a metal;

a reactive layer on said electrically energizable initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical energization of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of metal capable of liberating energy by alloying with the metal of said electrically energizable initiator bridge

a thin electrically insulating layer between said electrically energizable initiator bridge and said reactive layer

~~The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 10 wherein~~ said electrically insulating layer ~~is~~ being an oxide or nitride of a metal of the reactive layer.

13. (presently amended) ~~The pyrotechnic initiator defined in claim 1 wherein~~ A pyrotechnic initiator comprising:

an electrically energizable initiator bridge composed of a metal;

a reactive layer on said electrically energizable initiator bridge for liberation of energy upon electrical energization of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer being comprised of metal capable of liberating energy by alloying with the metal of said electrically energizable initiator bridge, said reactive layer ~~is~~ being comprised of a metal selected from the group which consists of titanium, hafnium, niobium, tantalum, aluminum and nickel.

Claims 14, 15, 16 and 17 (cancelled).